

# HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

Slang: “warts” “HPV”

## DEFINITION

There are many types of HPV, including over 30 types that can be spread through sex. It can also be spread from mother to child during birth. HPV is a virus that sometimes causes genital warts. It is a cause of certain types of cervical, penile and anal cancers.



## SYMPTOMS

**Primary Stage** – Small painless sore (chancres) where organism enters the body (genital, oral or rectal); the sore may be internal and go unnoticed.

**Secondary Stage** – Rash that can involve the palms and soles of feet; swollen lymph glands, fever, and painless sores often found in the mouth.

**Latent Stage** – Patient does not have symptoms. This stage may last for years.

**Late Stage** – If left untreated can cause damage to the brain or heart, blindness and/or death.

## TREATMENT

Can be cured with antibiotic therapy.

## SYMPTOMS

Often none. Some types cause genital warts – soft fleshy bumps that vary in size on or around the penis, scrotum, vagina, anus or mouth. Warts usually don’t hurt, but may itch.

## TREATMENT

No known cure. Warts should be treated by a doctor to monitor and reduce symptoms. Screening for cancer should be done often.



\*Adapted by NYSDOH with permission from the MODOH  
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# SYPHILIS

Slang: “pox,” “bad blood”



## DEFINITION

A sexually transmitted disease caused by a bacterium known as *Treponema pallidum* that may be transmitted sexually or from mother to child before or at the time of birth (congenital syphilis).

# GONORRHEA

**Slang:** “dose” “clap” “drip”



## DEFINITION

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease that is most common in people ages 15 to 30; many of those infected with gonorrhea also have chlamydia. Gonorrhea is caused by a bacterium known as *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

# CHLAMYDIA

**Slang:** “the clam” “goopy stuff”



## DEFINITION

Chlamydia is the most common bacterial sexually transmitted disease in the country. It is caused by a bacterium known as *Chlamydia trachomatis* and is often without symptoms. Chlamydia is frequently diagnosed in teenagers and young adults.

## SYMPTOMS

**Males:** Most infected men have symptoms which can include a milky discharge from the penis, a burning sensation upon urination, and sometimes swollen testicles.

**Females:** Most women have no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is often a vaginal discharge and/or bleeding; low abdominal pain and/or painful urination.

**Male/Female:** Rectal: itching, pain and discharge with blood or pus. Oral: sore throat, swollen glands.

## TREATMENT

Curable with antibiotic therapy. If not treated, can cause serious health problems.

## SYMPTOMS

**Males:** Infected men commonly have no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is often a watery or milky discharge from the penis and a burning sensation upon urination.

**Females:** Infected women usually show no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is most often vaginal discharge and/or bleeding; low abdominal pain and painful urination.

**Male/Female:** Rectal: pain, itching and discharge with blood or pus.

## TREATMENT

Curable with antibiotic therapy. If not treated can cause serious health problems.